## REMARKS

Claims 1, 3, 5-9, 11-16, 18-21, and 23-31 are pending.
Claims 1, 9, 16, and 21 are in independent form.

In the action mailed August 22, 2007, claims 1, 2, 5-8, 24, 25, 30 and 31 were allowed and claims 11, 12, 18, and 23 were recognized as reciting allowable subject matter. Applicant acknowledges the recognition of allowable subject matter with appreciation.

To advance prosecution:

 $-claim \ 11$  has been canceled and independent claim 9 amended to recite subject matter drawn therefrom;

-claim 18 has been canceled and independent claim 16 amended to recite subject matter drawn therefrom; and

-claim 23 has been canceled and independent claim 21 amended to recite subject matter drawn therefrom.

Accordingly, independent claims 1, 9, 16, 21, and their dependencies are allowable, which action applicant respectfully requests.

 $$\operatorname{No}$$  fees are believed due at this time. Please apply any charges or credits to Deposit Account No. 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: October 31, 2007

John F. Conroy Reg. No. 45,485

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